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RFK Case Taping Is Vetoed

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A judge denied today a request that the trial of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan be video taped and preserved for the "benefit of history."

Sirhan, a 24-year-old Jordanian, is charged with murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy last June 5 just after Kennedy announced he had won the California Democratic presidential primary.

Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker said he is "definitely of the opinion" that video taping the trial "would be in direct violation of . . . the rules of the judicial council."

Walker said he could "thoroughly appreciate" the request from county supervisor Kenneth Hahn, adding he would make a copy of the daily transcript of the trial available to Hahn or to the county clerk.

Sirhan's trial is scheduled to start Jan. 7.